



Palmetto

# Airlifter

315th Airlift Wing, Air Force Reserve  
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Photo by Debra Baldwin

***Charleston news reporters interview Maj. Lamar Knudsen, a 315th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron member currently assigned to the 791st Expeditionary Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron, during a recent media visit to Ramstein Air Base, Germany. Read the full story on page 7.***

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**Remember and Celebrate:****Honoring Martin Luther King Jr.****by 1st Lt. Bernadine Ford***315th Airlift Wing Military Equal Opportunity Office*

"I have a dream that one day this nation will rise up and live out the true meaning of its creed: 'We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal.' " This was Dr. Martin Luther King's dream and it's a dream that started when Thomas Jefferson wrote the Declaration of Independence for our nation in 1776. This was the start of the struggle for equality and civil rights.

Have we achieved the dream? Are we living in a society where all men are created equal? Dr. King gave his life in pursuit of this dream. On January 18, 1986, following the passage of Public Law 98-144, President Ronald Reagan signed a proclamation declaring the third Monday in January of each year a public holiday in honor of the birthday of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

On this holiday what should we remember about Dr. King? Should it be his numerous achievements and awards? What would Dr. King want us to remember? In a speech given on February 4, 1968, two months before he was assassinated, Dr. King preached his "The Drum Major Instinct" sermon from the pulpit of Atlanta's Ebenezer Baptist Church.

In the speech Dr. King said, "Yes, if you want to say that I was a drum major, say that I was a drum major for justice. Say that I was a drum major for peace. I was a drum major for righteousness. If any of you are around when I have to meet my day, I don't want a long funeral. And if you get somebody to deliver the eulogy, tell them not to talk too long. And every now and then I wonder what I want them to say. Tell them not to mention that I have a Nobel Peace Prize? That isn't important. Tell them not to mention that I have three or four hundred other awards? That's not important. Tell them not to mention where I went to school. I'd like somebody to mention that day that Martin Luther King, Jr. tried to give his life serving others..."

Not only did Dr. King give his life in the service of others, he gave his life in the service of our nation. Many others also gave their lives in the service of our nation during the fight for the civil rights that we all now enjoy. His holiday is not just a day off, but it's a day for our nation to remember a man that fought for the freedom, equality, and dignity of all races and peoples. It's a day to remember the message of change through nonviolence. It's a day to remember those who devoted and gave their lives to the Civil Rights movement. It's a day to remember that

Dr. King saw the promised land.

On April 3, 1968 Dr. King delivered at Mason Temple in Memphis, Tenn. his last speech titled "I've Been to the Mountain Top." He said, "Well, I don't know what will happen now. We've got some difficult days ahead. But it doesn't matter with me now. Because I've been to the mountain top. And I don't mind. Like anybody, I would like to live a long life. Longevity has its place. But I'm not concerned about that now. I just want to do God's will. And He's allowed me to go up to the mountain. And I've looked over. And I've seen the Promised Land. I may not get there with you. But I want you to know tonight, that we, as a people, will get to the Promised Land. And I'm happy, tonight. I'm not worried about anything. I'm not fearing any man. Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord." The next day on April 4, 1968, Dr. King was assassinated as he stood on the balcony of his second-floor room at the Lorraine Motel in Memphis.

Yes we may still have some difficult days ahead before the dream is fulfilled, but the dream can be fulfilled. One man and a movement made a difference; each one of us can make a difference. Dr. King knew he wouldn't get there with us, but he knew we would get to the Promised Land.

Dr. King's holiday renews the belief that the dream can be achieved, that we as a people will get to the Promised Land. The holiday celebrates the life and legacy of a man who brought hope and healing to America through a campaign of non-violence based on values of justice, peace and respect for all mankind. This should be a day of renewed commitment and unity, so we as a people can unite and continue to work towards achieving the dream that is yet to be fulfilled.

Let's continue to honor Dr. King so that his living and sacrifice won't be in vain. Let's also honor those countless others that also gave their lives in support of the dream. So that one day, in the words of Dr. King "We will be able to speed up that day when all of God's children, black men and white men, Jews and Gentiles, Protestants and Catholics will be able to join hands and sing in the words of the old negro spiritual, 'Free at last, free at last. Thank God Almighty, we are free at last.' "

Remember! Celebrate! Act! Remember the man and the movement by participating in civic events that reinforce our values of justice, peace and respect for all cultures! Celebrate the accomplishments and contributions of Dr. King and countless others! Act in order to inspire and provide a sense of aspiration for our youth of all creeds and races! Let's keep the dream alive so that we can all "get to the Promised Land!"



Graphic provided by 315th Military Equal Opportunity Office

# Family Support sponsors marrow drive

by Staff Sgt. Jeff Kelly  
315th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

The C.W. Bill Young/Department of Defense Marrow Donor Center and the 315th Family Support Office co-sponsored a marrow drive on Dec. 3 and 4.

"Any time we can do something to help our military members, their families or the community at large, we try to do it," said Tech. Sgt. Sid Hursey, 315th Family Support technician. "It really hits home when we have people on this base that have been positively affected by other donors."

Charleston AFB recently had several members undergo marrow transplants to combat the blood cancers they are presently fighting. None of these members had a familial match, so they relied entirely upon the National Marrow Donor Registry for the prospect of finding a potential donor.

Luckily, a match was found in each instance, a transplant was received and they continue their battles with cancer.

Sadly, this is not always the case. Only 30 percent of patients find suitable matches within their families, and many people never find a suitable match, which is why bone marrow drives such as this one are so important.

The support for the marrow drive was outstanding according to Sergeant Hursey.

Efforts on Friday obtained 61 potential marrow donors, and an additional 96 potential donors were registered on Saturday during the Unit Training Assembly.

In only two days, Team Charleston added 157 names to the National Marrow Donor Registry headquartered in Bethesda, Md.

"It is very rewarding just being there helping with the event," said Sergeant Hursey. "Helping to find so many potential donors is more inspirational for me than becoming a potential donor myself."

Some potential donors took the time to be screened for personal reasons.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Jeff Kelly

**Capt. Evelyn Phillips of the 315th AES draws blood from a member of the 315th Airlift Wing during the marrow drive held during the December UTA.**

"I found out last week that a very close friend of mine has a mild form of leukemia, and I wanted to test to see if I would be compatible for him if needed in the future," said Master Sgt. Tom Crawford, 315th Public Affairs NCOIC.

Others potential donors just thought it was the right thing to do.

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**"Everyone needs to do this. We have the opportunity to save lives here."**

Master Sgt. George Reeves  
*315th Mission Support Squadron*

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"Everyone needs to do this, we have the opportunity to save lives here," said Master Sgt. George Reeves, 315th Mission Support Squadron Training Office. "The life you save might be a stranger or someone you know. The bottom line is that you could be saving a life."

It was clear that no matter the reason for becoming a potential donor, everyone involved recognized that it was a worthwhile cause.

"We are all just one big family," said Lt. Col. Randolph (Knocko) Knox, 701st Airlift Squadron. "What did it take, like six minutes to save a life? It took one vial of blood and six minutes to help someone live."

According to Lisa Sweatt, 315th Family Support director, the drive would not have been possible without the volunteers.

"One key to the success of this drive was directly attributed to all the folks who volunteered their time to help during the two days," said Ms. Sweatt.

If you are interested in becoming a potential bone marrow donor, or would like more information, contact the C.W. Bill Young/Department of Defense Marrow Research and Recruitment Program by calling 1-800-MARROW3. Visit their web site at [www.dodmarrow.org](http://www.dodmarrow.org).

**'Get One' (and then some)**

# Med tech one of tops in AFRC referral program

**By Staff Sgt. Mary Hinson**  
315th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

A medical technician with the 315th Airlift Wing was recognized for her significant contribution to recruiting new members into the Air Force Reserve.

Airman Melissa Parker, 315th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron, earned the Commander's Emphasis Award for Superior Sustained Performance by placing second in Air Force Reserve Command in referring new recruits.

Airman Parker, who just joined the Reserve in January, referred 10 people to join the Air Force Reserve as part of the Get One Program.

"I didn't expect it," said Airman Parker of winning the award.

Get One is a referral program started in October 2000 that gives reservists a way to refer potential recruits to the Air Force Reserve.

A product of the referral program herself, Airman Parker joined after her sister, a former active-duty member, told the younger sibling of the many great opportunities the Reserve had to offer.

From then on, she continued to spread the word.

"Once I told them (potential recruits) why I thought the Reserve was so great, it didn't take long to convince them," said the medical assistant student from Lexington, S.C. "They would ask what I was doing, and I explained to them how they could do it too."

The Get One Program is a great way to let people know about different options available through the Air Force, according to Airman Parker.

"A lot of people, especially high school students, don't know about the Reserve," she said. "I didn't know about it until my sister told me."

For her award-winning performance, Airman Parker will receive a plaque, along with gift certificates for the Army Air Force Exchange Service.

According to the Web site, Get One referrals can be made one of three ways: by calling the hotline at (877) 786-2372; visiting the Web site at

[www.afreserve.com/getone](http://www.afreserve.com/getone); or filling out a referral card and sending it through the mail.

Anyone who submits a referral will receive an award just for participating says the Web site. Once new members join, the person who referred them will receive recognition and a special award.



## 315th AES flight medic juggles many hats

**By Master Sgt. Tom Crawford**  
315th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

Senior Airman Daniel Curtis of the 315th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron entertains children with juggling, a skill that also helps him keep up with the many hats he wears.

"I want to be a missionary doctor, loving husband and father," said Airman Curtis.

Before that can happen, several steps have to be accomplished. Airman Curtis is a flight medic in training with the 315th AES and attends pre-nursing school. He also volunteers as a chaplain for the Charleston County jail, where he

worked full-time as a detention officer before enrolling in school.

Serving as an airborne medic in the Army from May 1999 to May 2003 gave Airman Curtis a jump start in the medical profession. And speaking of jump start, five and a half months of his Army time was served with the 82nd Airborne in Afghanistan.

If that didn't keep him busy enough, Airman Curtis volunteered more than 2,500 hours as a youth minister counselor.

"I feel it is my duty to the Lord to minister to people and help guide them in the right direction," said Airman Curtis. "I also have a love for this country and I want to do my part."

"Many people complain about a lot of things in the world," Airman Curtis continued. "God gives us the ability to change things for the better. This is a part of my goal and mission in life."

Another hat Airman Curtis wears is 315th Airlift Wing Honor Guard member.

"I feel this is a good way to honor fallen heroes and those who have served this country," said Airman Curtis. "It's a privilege and an honor, helping families pay last respects. When the public sees the honor guard it builds their respect for the military."

As Airman Curtis continues to juggle school, the reserves and ministry work, he moves closer to achieving his goals.

# Unit Compliance Inspection set for March

by Capt. Chris Kirkland

315th Airlift Wing Performance Plans

Most everyone considers UCI inspectors to be much like the Spanish Inquisition or like an IRS tax audit.

In other words, we must resign ourselves to the inevitable and open our programs to let the inspectors from Air Force Reserve Command see if we measure up to their expectations.

This is how we can get through the inspection successfully.

First, go to the Air Force Reserve Command IG website (<https://wwwmil.afrc.af.mi./HQ/IG>). On this site is most everything we need to have a successful inspection. There is a list of Common Core Checklists, which is common to every

unit; the Self-Inspection Checklists, which are tailored to each type of unit; and the Special Interest Items, which usually require special attention in a timely manner and the Inspection Reports of previous inspections.

This is perhaps the best tool on the site for each unit to see what other units have experienced. Units will see what the inspectors have looked at from the other units by reading through the reports and getting a good idea what they will be looking for before they come to your unit. In them, you will find both good and bad reports with insight on how to improve your Commander's Programs and other processes.

Using these resources should help your unit prepare to have a successful UCI in March.

## Airmen move crucial cargo for warfighters

by Tech. Sgt. Ben Gonzales

437th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

Airmen of the 437th Aerial Port Squadron here are packaging and delivering critical supplies, including vehicle armor, to American warfighters in Iraq.

Charleston Air Force Base, the hub for shipping supplies supporting Operation Iraqi Freedom has seen a 71 percent increase in operations.

Since Dec. 1, the 437th APS has moved an average of 310 tons of material per day. This includes tires, tents and battle armor for Army convoy trucks.

"Essential equipment, including armor, has been coming into Charleston since before the war in Iraq," said Senior Master Sgt. Thomas Halpin, the superintendent of air freight for the 437th APS. "It takes the entire squadron to process and move all this cargo, with 90 percent of everything we move destined for Iraq."

The 24-hour operation is run by active-duty, Guard and reserve Airmen and civilians.

"This unit defines the total-force concept at its best," said Lt. Col. Chris Pike, 437th APS commander. "We could never put up the kind of numbers we have in support of the

warfighter without the assistance of the air reserve components. They came here ready and willing to do their part for the war effort, and we have completely integrated these folks into our operations."

The entire process starts when cargo arrives at the base on commercial trucks. Traffic management specialists check in, inspect and label all cargo before cargo processors palletize the equipment for flights. In December, the squadron has built an average of 131 pallets a day, with each pallet weighing about 3,600 pounds.

The Tanker Airlift Control Center at Scott AFB, Ill. Arranges the missions, with most cargo being flown by C-17 Globemaster III's, C-5 Galaxy's and contracted civilian aircraft.

When the aircraft arrive at Charleston, cargo is loaded and sent to the warfighter. The entire processing cycle for cargo here can take as little as two days.

"We have about 667 tons of cargo in the squadron ... of which 520 tons are ready to go," said Staff Sgt. Ricky Govin, a 437th APS capability forecaster. "The warfighters order what they need, and we move the boots, rations,



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Ben Gonzales

**Airman Michael Mitchem checks a cargo list to ensure equipment is delivered to the appropriate aircraft. This pallet, bound for Iraq, contains armor kits for military trucks. Airman Mitchem is a 437th Aerial Port Squadron air transportation apprentice.**

armor and everything else. Once we have an aircraft on station, we load it almost immediately."

"The people in this squadron understand how critical we are to the troops on the frontlines," Colonel Pike said. "In fact, the squadron's motto is 'We get the stuff to the fight!', and that is the focus for everything we do."

# Program supports Airmen during training layover

by Jennifer Turner

315th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

After the rigor and discipline of basic training, many Airmen head to technical training schools. However, some Airmen must wait months for a training slot. Assigned to their wing but unable to perform duties in their chosen career fields, Airmen can become frustrated. The Split Training Option Program bridges the gap.

"The program is for non-prior service Airmen who have gone to basic training but do not have a technical school date," said Staff Sgt. Kenneth Ferron, Assistant NCO for 315th Career Enhancement and the director of the Split Training Option Program. "It makes them feel comfortable coming into the military since they don't know what to expect."

An initiative throughout the Air Force, the Split Training Option Program was implemented at Charleston Air Force Base in April 2003. Some participants remain in the program for only several weeks while others stay for five months or more. Currently four Airmen are in the local program and report to Sergeant Ferron during each Unit Training Assembly.

"I incorporate training programs and briefings about what they will experience," said Sergeant Ferron. "For the September UTA, the Chiefs' Group took the Airmen to each unit to see what they do."

According to Sergeant Ferron, the Airmen have set schedules and goals during the UTA, such as learning about base services or observing how the Air Force functions. Gaining knowledge about their future careers and interacting with members of the wing also prepare the Airmen for life in the Air Force.

"With this program, we keep them in a military environment," said Sergeant Ferron. "By offering Airmen more of an insight into the Air Force, they get more of a step up than individuals who go straight to technical school."

The program also provides the Airmen with mentors and community service opportunities. According to Sergeant Ferron, it is important for the Airmen to see the



Photos by Tech. Sgt. Mark Kleber

**Left to right, Airmen 1st Class Soni McCrorey, Airmen 1st Class Corey Thomas, and Airmen 1st Class Chris Ebner listen to Family Support Director Lisa Sweatt during a December UTA briefing.**

value of fostering a positive relationship with the local community. In November, the program participants took part in the annual Charleston Veterans' Day Parade.

Although Sergeant Ferron acts as the main mentor, other wing members make sure the Airmen are on track.

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## "I have learned more of the reality of the reservist life."

Airman 1st Class Corey Thomas  
315th Split Training Option  
Program participant

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"They see the Air Force way of life and speak to people in their career fields before technical school," said Sergeant Ferron. "Mentoring is involved throughout."

As a member of the Split Training Option Program, Airmen 1st Class Corey Thomas believes the best features of the program are going home after basic training instead of heading to technical school and being able to observe military life.

"I have learned more of the reality of the reservist life," said Airmen Thomas.

Another participant, Airmen 1st Class Soni McCrorey, said that she is still adjusting to the change between basic training and wing life.

"Once you finally get to your duty station everything is a lot laid back," said Airmen McCrorey. "I am still trying to deal with it. I haven't adapted to it yet."

One of Sergeant Ferron's goals is to make the transition process easier.

"They are anxious to learn their jobs and have lots of 'what ifs,'" said Sergeant Ferron. "I help eliminate that."

Although he admits he was slightly scared after leaving basic training to join the wing, Airmen 1st Class Christopher Ebner now thinks the program has shown him more of the way the Air Force operates than he saw in basic training.

"We are able to answer the questions they accumulate in basic training and tell them what they should expect in technical school," said Sergeant Ferron. "After participating in this program, the Airmen are part of the group and not brand new."

# Charleston media visit troops in Germany

by Maj. Bill Walsh  
315th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

RAMSTEIN AB, GERMANY - It's around 24 degrees as the gray, cold early morning sky begins to brighten with light snow falling across an icy flight line, and Maj. Lamar Knudsen of Charleston is gearing up for another long day with the 791st Expeditionary Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron.

This day is different because along with Major Knudsen, also a member of the 315th AES, are nine members of the Charleston media tagging along to show the folks at home that work doesn't stop for the holidays.

"It's a real taste of daily life out here," said 1st Lt. Wayne Capps, 315th Airlift Wing Chief of Public Affairs and media escort for the visit. "People at home see our troops go off to far away places, and this is a great way to let them see their neighbors at work," Lieutenant Capps said.

The job this day was to launch a mission from Ramstein to Andrews AFB, Md., with patients from Landstuhl Army Medical Center.

"These patients are stabilized and will head back to the states while at the same time fresh patients arrive daily from down-range," said Major Knudsen as he spoke to the media.

Reporters from three Charleston television stations, two radio stations and one newspaper traveled aboard a Team Charleston C-17 to Rhein Main, Ramstein and Landstuhl to document daily deployed life during the holiday season.

"The aircrews are thrilled to talk on the radio," said Jermaine "Baby J" Jones of the highly popular Z-93 JAMZ morning show as they broadcast live from the stage operation at Rhein Main. "This is where it's at...we're live with your Z-93 'Breakfuss Club'... broadcasting from Rhein Main Air Base Germany," shouted "Baby J" as Charleston based crews looked on.

"We want to cover all aspects of the mission from the aerial port to the maintainers to the air crews," said Lieu-



Photo by Debra Baldwin

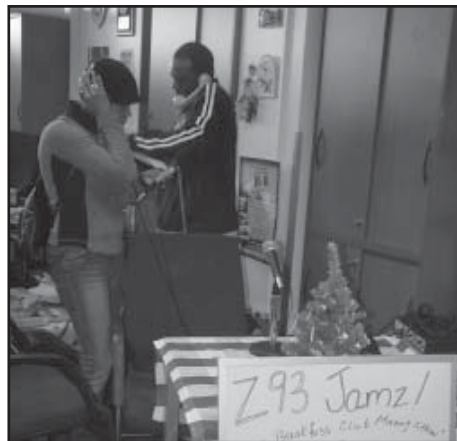


Photo by 1st Lt. Wayne Capps



Photo by Debra Baldwin

**Above, Channel 2 WCDB reporter Bettina Boateng interviews a soldier at Ramstein AFB while Jarad Hamm operates the video camera. Left, Tessa and Baby J from Z-93 JAMZ radio station broadcast their "Breakfuss Club" morning show live from Ramstein AFB. Right, Channel 5 WCIV reporter Debbie Chard talks with Doctor Bob Parger, a critical care doctor with the 791st Expeditionary Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron.**

tenant Capps. "The hospital at Landstuhl is a bonus stop and a real eye opener."

Media members were given a rare tour of the famous Army hospital, and the timing couldn't have been better as 30 members of Congress, including the Speaker of the House, were there to thank the patients for their service.

"It's not too often that you get to fol-

low the Speaker of the House as he hands out flags that were flown over the Capitol and White House to troops wounded in action," said Lieutenant Capps.

Throughout the six days in Germany, many members of Team Charleston were showcased for their tireless efforts and this recognition goes a long way back to the families and community at home.

# Squadrons celebrate the holidays

*Right, 2nd Lt. Yvonne Noisette, 315th Maintenance Squadron, talks to Santa's Helper Senior Master Sgt. Clinton Simon, 315th Maintenance Squadron, during their squadron's annual Christmas party.*

*Below, 315th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron decorated a special Christmas tree for their holiday celebrations. The large yellow bow at the very top and the cascading yellow ribbons represent the combined military family. The 11 smaller, bows represent members of the unit who are deployed.*



Photo provided by 315th MXS

*Below right, members of the 315th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron. From left to right: Little Elf (Lt. Col. Vicki Sullivan); Grinch (Chief Master Sgt. Curtis Allen); Big Elf (Chief Master Sgt. Mike Hallagan) and Mrs. Santa (Senior Master Sgt. Phil Summers) celebrate at the squadron Christmas party in December at The Plex.*

*Below bottom right, Santa (Senior Master Sgt. Ben Givens) and Mrs. Santa (Sergeant Summers) enjoy the festivities during a stage performance.*



Photo provided by 315th AMXS



# Kudos

## Promotions

### Technical sergeant

Edward Ritchie, 38th APS

### Staff sergeant

Willie A. Bates, 84th APS

### Airman

Brittaney L. Hutson, 315th AMDS

Joseph P. Rosier, 315th AMXS

Grady A. White, Jr., 315th AMXS

## Meritorious Service Medal

Lt. Col. Winifred Butler, 315th AES

Maj. Benjamin Dubois, 315th ALCF

Maj. Lee Johnsmabry, 315th AES

Maj. Kenneth Council Jr., 701st AS

Maj. David Dantzschler, 701st AS

Maj. Todd Humble, 701st AS

Maj. David Owens, 701st AS

Senior Master Sgt. Russell Willis,  
315th MXS

Senior Master Sgt. Martin Neilson,  
315th CES

Senior Master Sgt. Benjamin Givens,  
315th AMXS

Master Sgt. John Bartosh 317th AS

Master Sgt. Boyd Biddix 315th ALCF

Master Sgt. Ronald Johnson 315th  
AMXS

Master Sgt. Troy McNear, 315th  
ALCF

Master Sgt. Miki DeVito, 315th  
MXSG

Master Sgt. Raymond Jacobs, 315th  
AES

Master Sgt. George McKoy, 315th  
AES

Master Sgt. Christina Delp, 315th AW  
Master Sgt. George Mickle, 315th  
AMXS

Master Sgt. Mark Rainwater, 315th  
ALCF

Master Sgt. Mark Rainwater, 315th  
ALCF

Tech. Sgt. Gary Newville, 38th APS

Tech. Sgt. Ronald Scott, 81st APS

## Air Force Commendation Medal

Master Sgt. James Hampton, 315th  
CES

Tech. Sgt. Jim Hardwick, 317th AS

Tech. Sgt. Charlie Jenkins 315th  
MXS

Tech. Sgt. Roger Desilets, 315th  
AMXS

Tech. Sgt. Natalie Garrett, 315th  
MSS

Tech. Sgt. Scott Maxwell, 315th  
AMXS

Tech. Sgt. Barbara Strowd 315th  
AMXS

Tech. Sgt. Daniel Wright 315th  
AMXS

Tech. Sgt. Horace Bell, 315th AMXS

Tech. Sgt. Elijah Frasier, 315th  
AMXS

Staff Sgt. Rudolph Smith, 315th  
AMXS

Staff Sgt. Leonard McNeely, 315th  
AMXS

## Air Force Achievement Medal

Tech. Sgt. Janet Clayton, 315th MSS

Staff Sgt. Joy Kinser 315th MSS

Staff Sgt. Steven Warczyglowa,  
315th MXS

Senior Airman Kevin McAlister, 315th  
MSS

## Wing Quarterly Award Winners (October to December 2004)

### Senior NCO:

Master Sgt. Shawn Delp, 300th Airlift  
Squadron

### NCO:

Staff Sgt. Jason Shamis, 315th  
Maintenance Squadron

### Airman:

Senior Airman Marcus Ford, 315th  
Maintenance Squadron

## Team Charleston Spotlight



**Name:** Tech. Sgt. Molly Sanford

**Unit:** 300th Airlift Squadron

**Position:** Loadmaster

**Civilian job:** Recent Clemson  
University Graduate

**Hometown:** Youngsville, Penn.

**Best part of my job:** Being surrounded  
by such wonderful and motivating  
people

**Most challenging part of my job:**

Keeping up with the paperwork

**Pet peeve:** Inconsiderate drivers

**Hobbies:** Singing Karaoke on the dock  
with my best friends, sewing, fishing  
and crabbing

**Ideal vacation:** A long tour of the South  
Pacific Islands

**Something most people don't know**

**about me:** I am a third generation

Christmas tree farmer

**Something I do that drives people crazy:**

The way I order food at drive thru's

**I'd like others to say this about me:**

"Wow, she's got it together."

**Favorite food:** Fried gizzards with TMS  
sauce

**Favorite music:** Elvis

**This would make my day:** Winning  
concert tickets on the radio

**If you could be anyone else:** Oprah

**Personal goal:** To always be happy and  
healthy

**Something that I would like to do if I  
had the time:** Learn to sail

**For the latest 315th Airlift Wing news, calendar  
events and employee support, visit our web site at  
[www.afrc.af.mil/315aw](http://www.afrc.af.mil/315aw)**

# Hails, farewells, enlistments

The 315th Airlift Wing would like to welcome its **new members**.

## 315th AMDS

Staff Sgt. Alan Jenkins  
Airman 1st Class Jennifer Morris

## 300th AS

Senior Airman Derrick Brown

## 315th AES

Lt. Col. Charles Tupper

## 315th AMXS

Senior Airman Mitchell Arnold  
Senior Airman William Meek  
Senior Airman Brandon Miller  
Senior Airman Jacob Romero

## 315th MXS

Airman 1st Class Michael Craig  
Senior Airman William Gradberry  
Airman 1st Class Leah Hill  
Airman 1st Class Dustin Johnson  
Staff Sgt. Sara McPherson  
Airman 1st Class William Nicholson

## 81st APS

Airman Jemelia Corbie  
Staff Sgt. Sebastian Lang  
Staff Sgt. Heather Ross  
Senior Airman Amber Sander

Senior Airman George Carter  
Airman 1st Class Thomas Palmer  
Senior Airman Jorge Figueroa  
Staff Sgt. Randall Lemons  
Senior Airman Michele Williams  
Staff Sgt. Zacharia Fleming

We would also like to say good-bye to those **members retiring, separating or transferring**. Thank you for your service and dedication to this country and wing.

## 315th AMDS

Tech. Sgt. Yurvonda Coe  
Staff Sgt. Christiana Macham

## 315th AW

Senior Airman Richard Pape

## 701st AS

Tech. Sgt. Daniel Pahl  
Senior Airman Laura Anderson  
Master Sgt. Earle Hand

## 300th AS

Master Sgt. Allen Newhart  
Maj. Samuel Sims

## 315th AES

Master Sgt. George Mckoy  
Lt. Col. Winifred Butler

## 315th OSS

Senior Airman Walter McGaha

## 315th CES

Senior Airman Christopher Bennett  
Master Sgt. Wayne Tumbleston  
Senior Airman James Broderick

## 81st APS

Master Sgt. William Veno  
Staff Sgt. Marvin Greer  
Senior Airman Jeremy Wilson

## 84th APS

Staff Sgt. Keith Harker  
Capt. Paula Podwel

## 315th MSS

Tech Sgt. Penny Williams

Congratulations to the **members reenlisting**. Thank you for your continued commitment.

## 300th AS

Master Sgt. Ronald Newbold

## 315th AES

Tech Sgt. Michelle Carpenter  
Senior Airman Christine Perrin

## 315th OSS

Master Sgt. Gary McCall

## 315th AMXS

Tech. Sgt. Jaime Correa  
Tech. Sgt. Jeffrey Peterson  
Tech. Sgt. Darrell Woodby

## 315th CES

Senior Airman Kelvin Springs

## 315th MSS

Staff Sgt. Vern Frasier  
Tech. Sgt. Gwen Williams

## 38th APS

Tech. Sgt. Mary Keith  
Tech. Sgt. Vandilyn Lewis  
Senior Master Sgt. Alma Lowery  
Master Sgt. Arthur Rutiri  
Tech. Sgt. Michael Trenholm

## 81st APS

Tech. Sgt. Edith McNulty  
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## UNDERSTANDING CHAPTER 1607:

# New education benefit for activated reservists

H.R 4200 authorizing the creation of a new education benefit was signed into law on October 28, 2004. The new benefit, Chapter 1607, makes certain individuals who were activated after Sept. 11, 2001 either eligible for education benefits or eligible for increased benefits.

The Department of Defense (DOD), Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and VA are working on an implementation plan for this new benefit and at this time we are unable to provide more than general information about chapter 1607. Please be patient as we work with DOD and DHS to get this program implemented. Who is eligible for Chapter 1607?

A member of a reserve component who serves on active duty on or after September 11, 2001 under title 10 U.S. Code for a contingency operation and who serves at least 90

consecutive days or more is eligible for chapter 1607.

DoD will fully identify contingency operations that qualify for benefits under chapter 1607.

How much will I receive under Chapter 1607?

The educational assistance allowance payable under chapter 1607 is a percentage of the chapter 30 3-year rate based on the number of continuous days served on active duty.

The full-time rate is the rate for full-time institutional training under chapter 1607 on or after October 1, 2004. If your training was before October 1, 2004, your monthly rate will be a percentage of the Ch 30 (3- Year Rate) in effect at the time of your training.

For more information, contact the 315th Airlift Wing Training Section at 963-2076

## BRIEFS

**Available MEO officer position**

A Military Equal Opportunity Officer position in the 315th Airlift Wing will be available through the Deserving Airman Commissioning Program.

Minimum qualifications required before packages will be accepted include: must possess a bachelor's degree (from an accredited university) and have already passed the Air Force officer Qualifying Test (AFOQT). The person selected must be available to attend a 20-day Equal Opportunity Advisor Reserve Components Course at Patrick AFB, Fla. after the completion of the six-week Academy of Military Science Course at McGhee ANGB, Tenn.

Submit all packages to Career Enhancement no later than January 9, 2005. All packages must contain the following: one page chronological resume with military and any related civilian experience, last three EPRs, if applicable; letters of recommendation from current military supervisor and commander.

Direct all questions to Career Enhancement at 963-2061/2063.

**1st Sgt Vacancy**

The 701st Airlift Squadron has an opening for a First Sergeant. Only highly motivated personnel who clearly meet the minimum eligibility requirements should be considered for this assignment. (Reference AFI 36-2113) Technical sergeants may be selected if eligible for promotion to master sergeant under the provisions found in AFI 36-8001, Reserve Personnel Participation and Training Procedures, and must be promoted prior to attending the AFRC First Sergeant Academy (FSA). As a condition of promotion, the member must agree to attend the AFRC FSA within 12 months from the date of appointment. Failure to do will result in immediate removal of the 8F000 SDI. All interested personnel must submit a military resume, copies of the airman's last three EPR's and a letter of recommendation from their appropriate commander. The 315th Command Chief Master Sergeant will review all applications and set up a First Sergeant Selec-

tion Board. Please forward your package to 315 AW/CC, 105 E. Hill Blvd, Charleston AFB, SC 29404 not later than Jan. 9.

Selection board interviews are scheduled for Feb. 12 starting at 9 a.m., bldg. 60, room 205. For more information contact Personnel Employment section at 963-2068.

**Spouse Pin Program**

The Air Force Spouse Pin is now available for you to order on line. Whether you are a military member of the Air Force (Active, Guard or Reserve) or a civilian employee of the Department of the Air Force, you can now order the Spouse Pin. Simply go on line to [www.yourguardiansoffreedom.com](http://www.yourguardiansoffreedom.com) and follow directions. It's easy and only takes a few minutes to do. Anticipated delivery time for the pin is two to three weeks. The Spouse Pin program joins the Employee and Parent Pin initiatives sponsored by the "Your Guardians of Freedom" program.

**TSP Catch-up Contributions**

Air Force Personnel Center's benefits and entitlements service team automated systems will be available for 2005 Thrift Savings Plan catch-up contribution enrollments beginning Dec. 12. "TSP catch-up contributions are additional tax-deferred contributions, separate from (regular) contributions," said Janet Thomas, a human resources specialist at the center here. To be eligible for catch-up contributions, employees must be age 50 or older in the year in which the first deduction occurs, be in a "pay" status, and be making regular contributions at either the maximum TSP percentage or an amount that will reach the Internal Revenue Service limit by the end of the year, she said. AFPN

**Officials Announce Distribution Dates for Tax Statements**

As the end of the year approaches, Defense Finance and Accounting Service officials announced the schedule for distributing 2004 tax statements. The schedule lists when servicemembers, military retirees and annuitants and defense civilian employ-

ees can access their statements through myPay and when they can anticipate receiving a paper copy in the mail.

Customers once again can view, save and print their tax statements from myPay at <https://mypay.dfas.mil>. "During the months of January, February and March 2004, an average of 1.4 million myPay users viewed their tax statements each month, and we continue to encourage users to view and print their statements online," said Jim Pitt, director of electronic commerce at DFAS' military and civilian pay services. AFPN

**Future of Force**

The Air Force is moving forward in its transformation to the Future Total Force. Six FTF initiatives involve the Air Force Reserve, Air National Guard and active force. Three actions directly affect Air Force reservists and draw on their associate unit experience in sharing aircraft and flight operations responsibility with active-duty units. At Hill Air Force Base, Utah, the Reserve's 419th Fighter Wing will share F-16s with the active force's 388th FW in an associate unit arrangement. At Nellis AFB, Nev., reservists will work in the Air Warfare Center and train crews who fly the Predator Unmanned Aerial Vehicle. In the third initiative, members of the Guard and Reserve will integrate with active-duty Predator operations in Texas and Arizona. Air Force leaders announced the initiatives Dec. 1. They say the reserve components will add stability and reduce costs because of their low turnover rates.

**New AFRC Vice Commander**

Maj. Gen. David E. Tanzi will return to Robins Air Force Base, Ga., in January to serve as vice commander of Air Force Reserve Command. The commander of 10th Air Force will replace Maj. Gen. John J. Batbie Jr., who will retire after he relinquishes his post to General Tanzi Jan. 21. General Tanzi has commanded 10th Air Force, Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base Fort Worth, Texas, since March 2002. From February 1999 to March 2002, he was director of plans and programs at Headquarters AFRC.

## Santa greets children, tours mini C-17 at tree lighting ceremony



Photos by 1st Lt. Wayne Capps

**Left, Santa Claus disembarks from the "Spirit of Hope, Liberty & Freedom." Children attending the lighting ceremony eagerly explored and played in the recently completed miniature C-17, the newest community relations tool for Team Charleston.**

**Right, decked in firefighter gear after his arrival on on a Charleston Air Force Base fire truck, Santa Claus greets children during the Dec. 16 lighting of the base Christmas tree in front of the 437th Wing Headquarters Building.**



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